

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 FBO-02 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05
CCO-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06
OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15
SY-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
/081 W

-----291309Z 110730 /45

O R 291135Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8799

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SP

SUBJECT: THE MORNING AFTER

REF: MADRID 723

SUMMARY: GRAPO REPORTEDLY HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR
YESTERDAY'S ATTACKS, WHICH REPORTEDLY HAVE LEFT THREE
POLICEMEN DEAD, THREE GRAVELY WOUNDED; GOVT LAST NIGHT
SUSPENDED ARTICLES GUARANTEEING INVIOABILITY OF DOMICILE
AND LIMITING PERIOD OF DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE TO 72
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HOURS, BUT DID NOT CALL "STATE OF EXCEPTION;" 19 POLITICAL
PARTIES CONDEMNED VIOLENCE, CALLED FOR ACCELERATION OF
DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS AND DEMANDED THAT GOVT "DISARM ALL
TERRORISTS;" PRESS HAS PRAISED GOVT'S MEASURED
RESPONSE TO THE MURDERS; PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ TO
ADDRESS THE NATION TODAY. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS THIS MORNING, THE TOLL FROM YESTERDAY'S TWIN ATTACKS ON MEMBERS OF THE POLICE/GUARDIA CIVIL STANDS AT THREE DEAD AND THREE GRAVELY WOUNDED. GRAPO, THE SELF-STYLED EXTREME-LEFT KIDNAPPERS OF COUNCIL OF STATE PRESIDENT ORIOL AND GENERAL VILLAESCUSA LAST NIGHT REPORTEDLY CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MURDERS IN A COMMUNIQUE AIRED OVER THE "VOICE OF THE FREE CANARIES" WHICH BROADCASTS FROM ALGIERS. (DEPT WILL RECALL THAT IN THE EARLY STAGES THERE WERE REPORTS THE KIDNAPPERS WANTED A PLANE TO TAKE THEM, ORIOL, AND THE 15 PRISONERS TO ALGIERS.) AT WRITING, GRAPO'S COMMUNIQUE HAS BEEN NEITHER CONFIRMED NOR DENIED, BUT WE NOTE THAT THE METHOD EMPLOYED IS UNUSUAL.

2. THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AFTER AN EMERGENCY MEETING LAST NIGHT, ANNOUNCED THAT: "THE TERRORIST ACTS PERPETRATED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS CALL FOR THE ASSUMPTION BY THE GOVT OF EXCEPTIONAL AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO PROTECT CIVIL PEACE. BUT, SINCE THESE ATTACKS ARE CARRIED OUT BY SMALL GROUPS, IT IS NEITHER NECESSARY NOR DESIRABLE TO PROCLAIM A STATE OF EXCEPTION OR TO CARRY OUT A GENERALIZED SUSPENSION OF CIVIL RIGHTS WHICH COULD UNFAIRLY AFFECT ALL CITIZENS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE MEASURES CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING DECREE-LAW ARE LIMITED EXCLUSIVELY TO PERSONS SUSPECTED OF PREPARING OR EXECUTING TERRORIST ACTS..."

3. THE DECREE LAW: "FOR A PERIOD OF ONE MONTH FROM THE ENTERING INTO FORCE OF THIS DECREE-LAW (WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TOOK EFFECT AT 0001 HOURS, JANUARY 29) ARTICLES 15 AND 18 OF THE "FUERO" (STATUTE-LAW) OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE ARE SUSPENDED."

-- ARTICLE 15 STATES: "NO ONE MAY ENTER THE DOMICILE OF A SPANIARD OR SEARCH SAID DOMICILE WITHOUT HIS CONSENT, UNLESS IT BE BY MANDATE OF THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY AND IN THE CASES AND IN THE MANNER ESTABLISHED BY LAW."

--ARTICLE 18 STATES: "NO SPANIARD MAY BE ARRESTED EXCEPT IN THE CASES AND IN THE MANNER PRESCRIBED BY LAW. WITHIN 72 HOURS, ANY PERSON UNDERST SHALL BE SET FREE OR DELIVERED TO THE JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES."

4. NINETEEN POLITICAL GROUPS, FROM THE CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC UDE AND PARTIDO POPULAR(WE ASSUME THAT FRAGA'S ALIANZA POPULAR WAS NOT INVITED TO PARTICIPATE) TO THE SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCE) ISSUED A JOINT COMMUNIQUE LAST NIGHT WHICH CONDEMNED THE KIDNAPPINGS AND MURDERS OF RECENT WEEKS, CALLED FOR CALM AND CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY, REAFFIRMED THE

PARTIES' WILL TO WORK TOWARD CREATING A CLIMATE OF CIVIL PEACE AND CONCORD WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE ACCELERATION OF THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS, AND DEMANDED THAT THE GOVT LIVE UP TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO GUARANTEE PUBLIC ORDER, "DISARMING TERRORIST GROUPS WHICH ARE CIRCULATING WITH APPARENT IMPUNITY." THIS COMMUNIQUE WAS HIGHLIGHTED ON NATIONAL TV LAST NIGHT. (ALIANZA POPULAR ISSUED ITS OWN SEPARATE STATEMENT ALON SIMILAR LINES.)

5. ALL THE MADRID DAILIES, FROM THE RIGHTIST EL ALCAZAR TO THE LIBERAL EL PAIS, TODAY TOOK THE UNPRECEDENTED STEP OF RUNNING THE SAME EDITORIAL (ACCORDING TO EL PAIS, ALL DAILIES THROUGHT SPAIN FOLLOWED SUIT) TITLED "FOR THE UNITY OF ALL," THE EDITORIAL STATES, INTER ALIA:
-- "IN THESE MOMENTS OF NATIONAL CRISIS, WHEN POWERFUL FORCES THREATEN THE VERY ESSENCE OF THE STATE AND ATTEMPT TO USURP BY VIOLENCE THE POPULAR MANDATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN FAVOR OF DEMOCRACY AND PEACE, THE PRESS CONSIDERS ITSELF OBLIGED TO CALL FOR THE UNITY OF ALL, WITHOUT EXCEPTIONS."

-- " THE RIGHT OF A PEOPLE TO DECIDE FREELY ITS COLLECTIVE DESTINY CANNOT BE IMPEDED BY VIOLENCE AND ORGANIZED CRIME...THE UNMASKING OF ALL THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO BENEFIT FROM THIS STRATEGY IS THE DEMAND OF ALL SPANIARDS OF THEIR GOVT...BEFORE THIS CHALLENGE, ALL POLITICAL AND SOCIAL FORCES MUST ADOPT A COMMON FRONT AND, LEAVING ASIDE DIFFERENCES, PROCLAIM THEIR DECISION TO CONTINUE. THROUGH THE MECHANISM OF FREE ELECTIONS, WITH THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS."
-- "IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE GOVT AND THE REST OF THE POLITICAL FORCES COME RAPIDLY TO AGREEMENT AND THAT ENERGETIC MEASURES BE TAKEN TO GUARENTEE THE PEACE WITHOUT DIMINISHING CIVIL RIGHTS. AT ISSUE IS WHETHER OR NOT SPAIN WILL BE A DEMOCRACY, AND THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY AS A PLURALISTIC AND FREE SOCIETY."

6. EL PAIS THIS MORNING EDITORIALY PRAISED THE GOVT'S DECISIONS OF LAST NIGHT AS A MEASURED RESPONSE TO THE PROVOCATIONS OF YESTERDAY. THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S MEASURES, THOUGH WE JUDGE THAT THE REACTION WILL DEPEND MORE ON HOW THE ANNOUNCED MEASURES ARE IMPLEMENTED, I.E., WHETHER THEY ARE EFFECTIVE WITHOUT BEING ABUSIVE OF CIVIL RIGHTS GENERALLY, THAN ON LAST NIGHT'S DECISION ITSELF.

7. PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ REPORTEDLY WILL ADDRESS THE NATION, BUT THE TIME FOR HIS ADDRESS HAS NOT BEEN SET. STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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